users. Publicity campaign has been launched by the Railway Administration through the media.

(c) The number of accidents at unmanned level crossings during the last 3 years and casualties there'n were as under:

Year	No. of accidents	Casualties	
		Killed	Injured
1983-84	52	75	196
1984-85	43	115	191
1985-86	40	54	153

(d) and (e) As on 1-4-80, there were 22,341 'C' class unmanned level crossings on the Indian Railways.

Manning of level crossings is undertaken by the Railways at the instance of the State Government, Local Authority, who bears the initial and recurring expenditures. Railways also on their own man hazardous level crossings, 1067 level crossings have been manned during 1980—85 and about 200 level crossings on an average are being manned every year.

Recession in Shipping Industry

278. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian shipping industry continues to reel under an unabated recession and, if so, what are the detailed reasons therefor; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government during the last two years to mitigate the hardship of the shipping industry and what has been the outcome of these steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Indian shipping industry which operates in international environment continues to suffer from global recession, arising out of overtonnage in relation to cargo.

(b) Various measures taken or are under consideration of Government during last two years to assist the shipping industry include reschedulement of Shipping Development Fund Committee loans and interest, re chedulement of SAFAUNS loans and interest, for the period after 31-3-1983, cargo support to Indian shipping industry through enforcement of UNCTAD Liner Code, greater insistence on strict observance of the policy of buying f.o.b. and selling c.i.f., simplification of procedures relating to matters of scrapping of Indian flag ships, reduction/exemption from customs and excise duties, waiving sales tax, simplification of procedure for buying and selling of ships, permitting shipping companies to acquire specialised modern fuel efficient ships needed for Indian trade, permitting diversification of shipping companies in the related oil industry through acquisition/management of DSV's, multi-support vessels etc. As a result of above steps, shipping companies continue to operate their ships and are weeding out old and uneconomic tonnage.

New airports in Delhi and Bombay

279. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering proposals to set up new